

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SPC-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

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INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR TRADE COMMITTEE (TC) MEETING OCT 22-23:

LIKELY EC COMMISSION POSITION ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING

1. HYMANS, MEMBER OF EC PERMANENT DELEGATION TO OECD, HAS INFORMED MISSION THAT COMMISSION DEL TO OCT 22-23 TC MEETING WILL PROBABLY OPPOSE CONVENING SPECIAL SESSION OF TC BEFORE END OF YEAR TO CONSIDER TCWP DRAFT INSTRUMENT ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING. HYMANS EXPLAINED THAT THERE WAS GOOD CHANCE THAT EC COUNCIL WOULD CONSIDER EC COMMISSION DIRECTIVE ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING BEFORE END OF YEAR AND COMMISSION COULD MAKE NO FURTHER CONTRIBUTION TO OECD EXERCISE UNTIL AFTER EC COUNCIL'S VIEWS WERE KNOWN. IF EC COUNCIL DID CONSIDER EC DIRECTIVE BEFORE END OF YEAR, HYMANS THOUGHT COMMISSION'S PREFERENCE WOULD BE TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING OF TCWP ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING, SAY IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY, BEFORE CONVENING SPECIAL SESSION OF TC.

2. MISSION OFFICER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THIS INFORMATION

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AND AGREED TO REPORT IT TO WASHINGTON. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, MISSION OFFICER REMINDED HYMANS THAT U.S. AND OTHER OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES THOUGHT OECD AND EC WORK ON GOVERNMENT PURCHASING SHOULD PROCEED IN TANDEM IN COM-

PLEMENTARY WAY, EACH HAVING CONSTRUCTIVE EFFECTS ON OTHER,
WHILE MAINTAINING SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY SO THAT SATIS-
FACTORY ARRANGEMENTS OR GUIDELINES ON GOVERNMENT
PURCHASING MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE AGREED ON OECD AND PERHAPS
WIDER BASIS. MISSION OFFICER SAID HE ASSUMED EC COMMISSION
SHRED THIS APPROACH AND WOULD WISH TO AVOID A
SITUATION IN WHICH EC WOULD PRESENT ITS DIRECTIVE ON GOVERN-
MENT PURCHASING AS FAIT ACCOMPLI NOT SUBJECT TO FURTHER
MODIFICATION AND ADAPTATION IN OECD CONTEXT.
BROWN

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